

bers. This band gave Sunday afternoon concerts too.

After his father's death he and his mother opened a store. He served as postmaster for several years and the first telephone in Wallburg was installed in his store, the old crank and bell style. For a time, the calls — mostly news of deaths or other serious emergencies — were relayed to the townspeople through this single phone.

During this time, their home burned to the ground and only a few personal effects and clothing were saved. The townspeople rallied to their aid as was the custom then and a dance was held after the fire, and furniture, bedding, clothes and food were brought to help them get started again. They were always so grateful for this help and often talked of it long after they left Wallburg.

They left Wallburg in the early 1900s. They lived in Provo Canyon awhile, in Heber and then Provo, where the twins, Lillie and Lisle, a little girl and boy, were born in 1906 and died the same day and were buried by their grandfather in the Wallburg Cemetery.

About 1900 they settled in Lund, Idaho, where George worked on a ranch until he homesteaded a farm for himself. They stayed till 1925, when he died. They all worked actively in the Church and they were the center of music and entertainment.

Ada was a good wife and mother. She taught school in Wallburg during her early married life and always worked in all the Church organizations wherever she lived. After George's death she moved to Salt Lake and made her home with her oldest daughter, Ada Esther Phillips, and visiting her other children. She was a teacher in the Eighth Ward, Liberty Stake, and did Temple work as long as she was able. She had an alert interest in local and national affairs. She also had many friends.

Their children: Ada Esther, Annie, Sarah Leslie, George Harvey, Nettie, Glenn, Ray, Leila, Mona, Harry, Lillie, Lisle.

### ATHA CARTER DAVIS AND MARY ETT FORD

Atha Carter Davis was born March 11, 1860, son of John Meeks Davis and America Jane Overland. He married Mary Ett Ford, who was born April 9, 1863, at Wallburg to Martin Ford Sr. and Zibiah Meriba

Stoker Ford. She died April 24, 1947, and he died July 19, 1950.

Atha was a very good neighbor and would help anyone in need. He worked at the Whiterocks Indian Agency and was a blacksmith with the Indians when he was young. He was able to understand and speak the Ute Indian language and was an interpreter. He was a very good blacksmith and a farmer.

Their children are: Atha Earl, Parley, Alva and Ellis Martin.

### ELIJAH DAVIS AND SUSAN MOLINDA WALL



Elijah Davis was born August 15, 1850, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, son of William Luce Davis, born in 1824, in Indiana, who died very suddenly July 5, 1852, at Platte River, Nebraska, while on their way to Utah. Elijah's mother was America Jane Overland. She was born in 1827, in Kentucky. She married her husband's brother after William's death. She died in 1874 and is buried at Wallburg. Elijah died August 22, 1922.

Elijah's wife, Susan, was a daughter of William Madison Wall, who was born September 11, 1858, in Provo, and died at the Heber Hospital at 99 years of age. Her mother was Elizabeth Penrod, who was born September 9, 1836, in Illinois, and died April 14, 1925, at Wallburg.

Elijah hauled the U. S. mail many years, receiving \$1 a day. He had to go, no matter what kind of weather or if it was possible to get through deep drifting snow, or if the river was so high it was hazardous to ford it on horseback. Elijah had the first shingle mill in Wallburg, furnishing many shingles to Wasatch and Utah County users.

Their children: William E., Willmirth,

### WALLSBURG BIOGRAPHIES

John, Nettie, Willard, Lenn, Lula, Nellie and Ora.

### SUSAN MOLINDA WALL DAVIS

Susan Molinda Wall Davis was born September 11, 1858, at Provo, Utah, daughter of William and Elizabeth Penrod Wall. She married Elijah Davis on January 5, 1875. To them were born nine children. There were many hardship for the girl. She served as a nurse and midwife. She died at the age of 99, in September, 1957.

History given by Ora Parcell, a daughter. I think you will agree that what I am writing is really history, as it was given to me the March 14th, 1957, by my mother, who is still living at the age of 98, and will be 99 September 11 next. She is Susan Molinda Wall Davis. She is the last living child of the late Elizabeth and William Wall. The town of Wallburg was named after her father.

She recalls they had many hardships when she was a girl. As there were five wives and 30 children, everyone had to cooperate and work hard. They only had one Sunday or best dress each year. Her mother would spin the wool and another wife, Aunt Emma Wall, wove the cloth and then the dress was made by hand.

They had but one pair of shoes during the winter and in summer went barefooted. In the year 1875, on January 5, she married Elijah Davis, and to them were born nine children, three boys and six girls. Six of the children are still living. On August 22, 1922, my father passed away.

She has been a very active worker all her life. When the roads and weather were too bad for a doctor to come, she has been a nurse and midwife to many a family in town. Many a time she has gone with both the Drs. Dannenberg and a few times with Dr. Nielson when he first came to Wasatch County. Confinement cases were nearly all taken care of in the home. Some went to the hospital, but most all were at home, and she was always ready to go when called to help.

After the children were reared she had for her hobby star quilt making, completing more than 100. Then she started to crochet hair pin lace for pillow cases, but last year she could not see so well to do this kind of work.

She was very active in Relief Society work as a visiting teacher. She helped to collect funds to build the little Relief Society room that still stands on the corner of the Church lot. She always wants to go to the ward and county parties. She attended the old folks' party held at Daniels Ward last fall, and this spring, on February 23, 1957, she was able to go to the ward reunion and enjoy herself as the oldest member of the ward and also of the county.

A picture we as a family will never forget was when President Cummings and his lovely wife took hold of her arm and walked up the aisle and helped her to her dinner table. It was an honor to him and we feel it is a big honor to her and the family to have the president of our stake help the oldest member as they did that day. Thanks again to President and Mrs. Cummings.

### WILLARD DAVIS AND ELIZABETH LUCINA BOREN



Willard Davis was the son of Susan Molinda Wall Davis. He was born April 1, 1888, in Wallburg. He married Elizabeth Lucina Boren, daughter of Samuel J. Boren and Abigail Maria Lamb, when he was 20 years of age.

His father at that time was U. S. mail carrier, and at the age of 16 Willard carried the mail by horse and cart and sometimes by horseback. After his marriage he farmed and still helped his father carry mail. In 1924 he was awarded the contract for himself and carried it two terms. On the next term, John Wall underbid him a few dollars, receiving the contract. Alma Mecham followed him, then Delton Batty before Willard was given it again. In all, Willard carried the mail 35 years.

Willard's father, Elijah, carried the mail



to Park City. Joseph S. Murdock and his sons; E. J. Duke, John H. Luke and A. C. Hatch operated some of the lines.

Among the fine inspiring traditions in this country of ours is the thrilling slogan: "The mail must go through." It may have been born during the exciting days of the pony express when fearless men risked their lives each day and night. Wherever or however it was born, certainly no finer chapter in the annals of U.S. mail history can be found than that recorded in the almost lifelong service of our fellow townsman, Elisha J. Duke, known and respected throughout the state as "Lishe."

Over fifty years ago a boy in his teens tightened the lines across the back of a freight team and made his first trip from Heber to Park City. James A. Garfield was president then. There wasn't even a telephone connecting Wasatch county which then extended eastward to the Colorado line, with the outside world. What were then called roads would be now termed cow trails. But from that day that same youth now seventy-six years young, has almost daily traveled this route. Thirty-seven years ago President McKinley designated him official mail carrier between Heber and Park City. Of course, that brought better equipment consisting of a string of horses, better adapted to speed and behind them "Lishe" mounted the then famous "white top" mountain road wagon leaving daily on the hour with its load of mail and passengers bound for Park City. With the coming of the railroad, progress seemed to dictate that the mail be brought in by the more modern method of rail delivery. But when it became apparent that mail out of Salt Lake City required a couple of days to reach here, it began to look as if the old method was best after all. Many old-timers still recall the expressions of sympathy that went out to "Lishe" as they watched his caravan of teams pull up legweary and mud-covered to discharge their stacked-up cargo of mail and post that had accumulated because of the always inevitable "snow-slide in Provo Canyon" which except for his faithful adherence to duty would have cut this valley off from communication for weeks at a time. The irony of the situation can be better understood when it is known that for this re-routed mail and post he got little additional pay. Perhaps the most grueling experience in his long career came in February, 1917 when five teams and fifteen men over a period of three days battled to hold aloft that banner—"the mail must go through." Many a winter night new kerosene was added to the family lamp to wait and see if "Lishe" Duke had got in with the mail.

Ripley might well observe that this dependable servant of Uncle Sam and the people of his capacity as mail carrier has traveled each season more miles than is necessary to encircle the globe; he got the mail through if he had to do it on snowshoes or transfer from sleigh to wagon; he has pounded down to their last rattle fourteen model T Fords to say nothing of diverse makes of other cars which have gone to the scrap heap under this relentless grilling; he has never had an accident! never had a vacation; and today at seventy-six you set your clock with the time of his departure or arrival. Maybe the fine mail service we enjoy today per-

mitting a letter to be written, mailed, answered and returned from Salt Lake City in less than 24 hours can be chalked up in part to the credit of "Lishe" Duke who will be gratefully remembered by the people of this county as the man who saw that "the mail must go through."

When the railroad came to Heber in 1899 the Denver & Rio Grande received the mail contract on a daily basis. Fred Hayes was postmaster for a short time and then was followed by John A. Smith who served until March 1, 1915. Dan McMillan was appointed next and served until November 1, 1920. Guy Duke, a veteran of World War I was then appointed and served until December of 1922 when Jay Jensen was appointed. Maranda Smith took office as postmistress on December 18, 1923 and served until February 19, 1936, when the present postmaster, Heber M. Rasband, took office.

Star route carriers during the years have been E. J. Duke who served for more than 40 years, Elijah Davis, John Wall, Willard Davis, Ben Murdock, Jay Cummings and Stacey Wright. Rural carriers who served for more than 30 years each included Lawrence B. Duke, Adolphia R. Duke, and Max Lee.

City postal delivery was established in Heber November 1, 1946, and carriers appointed at that time were Jay O. Johnson, Ray Wright, Bert Lindsay and Garth Rasband.

Another important governmental function in Heber, though it began at first as a private need, is operation of the Heber City Cemetery.

When the east part of the townsite was surveyed in 1859 an area near the foothills in the north-east part of the valley was set aside for burial plots. During that same year an infant daughter of James and Sariah Cook died and was the first person to be buried in the area. Later that year, John Carlile was injured while crossing Provo River and died in September. He became the first adult to be buried in the cemetery.

Busy pioneer settlers had little time and even less money to maintain and beautify the graveyard as it was then called, and so it was just used as needed. Sagebrush and weeds usually covered the area during the summer, and snows and frozen ground presented another problem during winter months.

As more deaths occurred the city government took more active control over the cemetery operation and began a regular program of upkeep. The small section originally set aside for the cemetery soon became inadequate, and John Duke and his wife, Martha, heeding the problem, deeded to the city a large tract of land adjoining the cemetery. In 1940 still another tract, south of the cemetery, was purchased by the city to add to the area of the cemetery. These burial lots were to have perpetual care.

In recent years the city has installed water lines throughout the cemetery to insure green grass and have hard-surfaced the roads making travel within the cemetery much easier. These improvements have also spurred individuals on to beautification of individual plots. Beds of flowers have



## CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

### *People, Places and Events*

When events occur for the first time or when people achieve new things there is usually popular acclaim to remember the events or the people. There are many memorable "firsts" in Wallsburg, including the following:

The first school house and church building was constructed inside the fort area and Mrs. Lucina M. Boren was the first school teacher. The first school house outside the fort was the home of Martin Ford, and the first regular school building was on the property of George L. Batty. Miss Josephine Wall was teacher in 1859. Teachers who came to these first schools lived in the homes of Jennie Allred, Susan Davis, Amber Ford and Mrs. John Graham.

Some of the first musicians that played for dances were William Bancroft, dulcimer; George Allred, Amber, Martin and Alfred Ford, James Wheeler and William Davis who played the violin, organ and guitar.

Mrs. Polly Mecham was the first doctor in Wallsburg and used herbs as well as faith and prayer in caring for the sick. Mrs. Annie Mecham, wife of John L. Mecham, also was an early doctor in the area.

The first irrigation ditches were made by W. J. Boren and William Haws.

The first post office was directed by William E. Nuttall and the mail was carried on horseback and carriage by Dixon Greer. The mail route from Wallsburg was to "String Town" or what was later Harry Watson's farm near Charleston. Other postmasters included S. D. Greer, George Dabling, George P. Garff, Della Mecham, Orpha Wall and Alice C. Graham. Mail carriers included Abram Penrod, Elijah Davis, Ray Boren, Ellis Boren, Willard Davis, John Wall and Roy V. Loertscher.

The first manufacturing was the production of shingles. Owner of the first shingle mill was William Nuttall, John Parcell, Enoch Richens and Elijah Davis also owned an early mill. There were many good lumber mills and carpenters, including William Ford and Martin Ford Jr., who were especially skilled at manufacturing caskets.

The first piece of machinery brought to Round Valley was a mower and reaper owned by Martin Ford, Sr.

The first shoemakers were W. J. Boren, William Haws and Luke Burdick. Mr. Boren was also a skilled cabinetmaker. Early stores were owned by Dick Camp, James Allred, Jacob Harris and Dixon Greer.

The first saw mill was owned by William Penrod, W. J. Boren and James Wheeler, William G. Nuttall and Daniel Bigelow also owned mills.

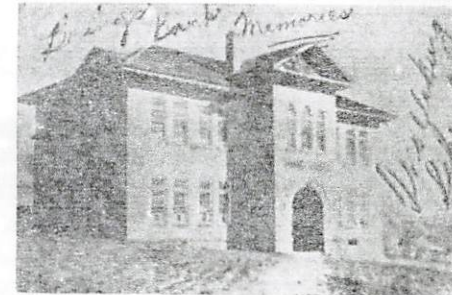
Martin Ford and William Stoker brought the first cook stoves to the valley. Prior to this all the cooking had been done in fireplaces. Cooking utensils consisted of a kettle on three legs, a bake oven and a deep frying pan 4 Aug. 1864.

Susann Wall, Enoch Gurr and John C. Greer were the first white children to be born in Round Valley 24 Feb. 1865.

Some of the first dramatists in Round Valley were Eathan A. Duke, Joseph Kerby, Polly Allred, Belle Penrod, Frank Allred, Mr. and Mrs. How Duke, Ezra Greer, Parley Ford, Earl Ford, Mark Kerby, William Ford, Gertrude Ford, John Whiting, Alfred Ford, Leone Allen, Myrtle Ford and some others.

### SCHOOLS IN WALLSBURG

A combination church house and school building constructed of logs plastered with mud was the scene of the first classwork in Wallsburg. Mrs. Lucina M. Boren taught in the small building which was located inside the fort walls.



The Wallsburg School constructed in 1904 from red sandstone and still in use.

When the community expanded outside the fort, Martin Ford's home was used as the school and Aaron Thomas, a Christian minister, served as the teacher.

Later, a combination school house and dance hall was built on property owned by George L. Batty. A second school house was built a few years later and boasted two rooms of red sandstone construction. The present school was built in 1904 by Edd Snyder, and also was of red sandstone. When the building was constructed the town was bonded for \$4,000, but the indebtedness was soon paid off and \$1,500 in cash was turned over to the Wasatch County School District when Wallsburg District was discontinued and all county schools were consolidated.

Lucina Mecham Boren began teaching in the winter of 1865 and these teachers followed: Josephine Wall Rogers, Dixon Hamlin Greer, Richard Cecil Camp, George Pickup, F. W. Hathenbrook, Aaron Thomas, all before 1875. Then D. Camp Wray, Richard J. Nuttall, Ada Glenn,